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15 MARCH 1962

Braintree & Bocking  
URBAN DISTRICT

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REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

C. R. C. RAINSFORD

M.D., D.P.H., D.T.M.

FOR THE YEAR

1961



TOGETHER WITH THE

REPORT

OF THE

Chief Public Health Inspector

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BRAINTREE and BOCKING  
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

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**Medical Officer of Health**

C. R. C. RAINSFORD, M.D., D.P.H., D.T.M.

**Chief Public Health Inspector**

S. F. BAYLEY, F.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.

**Additional Public Health Inspectors**

W. G. THURSTON, M.A.P.H.I., A.R.S.H.

N. D. GAYLER, M.A.P.H.I. (from April, 1961)

**Clerk/Student Public Health Inspector**

N. D. GAYLER (until March, 1961)

**Junior Clerk**

Miss P. MAYHEW (until July, 1961)

Miss C. M. RATHE (from July, 1961)

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICES,

Town Hall, Braintree.

September, 1962.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my annual report for the year 1961, on the health, vital statistics and sanitary circumstances of the district. The general form of the report is as laid down by the Ministry of Health and as usual I am indebted to the Area Medical Officer for providing information with regard to the Clinics and other personal health services controlled by the Essex County Council.

### Vital Statistics

For the first time the population has topped the 20,000 mark and at 20,510 shows an increase of 680 over 1960.

The Birth rate and the Death rate are very similar to those of the previous year and tally closely with the general rates for England and Wales.

There were 9 deaths of babies under 1 year. Of these, 5 were born prematurely and 4 showed some congenital abnormality.

In the table giving deaths from all causes we find that out of a total of 275 deaths, 36 were from malignant disease and 136 from some form of heart disease or disease of the blood vessels.

### Notifiable Infectious Disease

Of a total of 338 cases, 298 were measles. Measles was prevalent throughout the year until the autumn; October, November and December were the only months without a notification.

There were 16 cases of whooping cough, but it is satisfactory to report nil returns for poliomyelitis and dysentery. The 2 cases of malaria contracted their infections in West Africa.

### Immunisation and Vaccination

Immunisation against diphtheria, whooping cough and poliomyelitis was carried out as in previous years by general practitioners and by Essex County Council Medical Officers.

During the year it was decided that children between the ages of 5 and 12 should be given a 4th reinforcing injection against poliomyelitis and it will be seen that over 1,000 such injections were given.

Full statistical details of the work done will be found later in this report.

### **Environmental Hygiene**

As usual, this field has been adequately covered by Mr. Bayley in the second part of this report.

Frequent references have been made in previous reports to the need for augmenting the town's water supply. It is therefore gratifying to know that as from June, 1961, water from the new Codham Borehole has been circulating in the mains. From a health point of view this water is of a high standard of purity, but it will be improved when the softening and aerating plants are in operation.

The sewage disposal works have not yet caught up with the need for more houses and in consequence building has again been curtailed.

Nevertheless, 53 houses, 10 flats and 8 bungalows were completed by the Council during the year and 55 houses by private builders. More important for the future is the progress made on preparing plans for increasing the capacity of the sewage works at Braintree and Bocking. It is expected that work will commence on the Braintree works by the summer of 1962, and on the Bocking works soon after.

### **National Assistance Act, 1948, Section 47**

It was not necessary to take any action under the provisions of this Act.

It is again a pleasure to record my thanks to the Chairman and members of the Public Health Committee for their interest and support. My thanks, too, go to Mr. Bayley and his staff for their loyal co-operation, and to officers from other departments for help and advice.

I am,

Yours faithfully,

C. R. C. RAINSFORD,  
Medical Officer of Health.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICES,  
Town Hall, Braintree.  
September, 1962.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE BRAINTREE AND BOCKING  
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting in conjunction with the report of the Medical Officer of Health, my report on the work of the Public Health Inspectors for the year 1961.

On the 1st April, 1961, the Slaughterhouses (Hygiene) Regulations, 1958, came into full effect within the Council's area and all the slaughterhouses complied with them. Considerable reconstruction at three slaughterhouses was entailed, much supervision was needed and advice given. There is a marked improvement in the buildings, in the hygienic handling of meat and the humane treatment of animals before slaughter which has been maintained by the vigilance of your Inspectors at each visit when inspecting the meat and at other times. The implementation of the Regulations has brought some welcome changes, but has undoubtedly delayed the date when we shall see the concentration of slaughtering with full-time supervision.

With regard to food hygiene in general, the trade appears to have maintained the high standard built up over recent years despite the fact that it was found necessary to prosecute one trader for various infringements of the regulations.

For the first time in many years there has been an adequate supply of water even to the higher areas of the town and it is pleasing to have in sight the completion of the Codham scheme which will ensure a sufficiency of water for many years to come.

The investigation of the pollution of the atmosphere continued as part of the National Survey, but on a reduced scale following information from the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research. It is now accepted that about half the atmospheric pollution is from domestic sources. This can be reduced by the progressive formation of Smoke Control Areas and it is encouraging to note that tentative moves to this end have been made.

In conclusion I wish to thank you for your continued interest and support and to acknowledge the help and co-operation of my staff and fellow officers.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

S. F. BAYLEY,

Chief Public Health Inspector.

## STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area (in acres) ... ... ...	...	...	...	...	...	6,811
Population (Registrar General's estimate) ... ... ...	...	...	...	...	...	20,510
Number of inhabited houses according to rate books ...	...	...	...	...	...	6,794
Rateable value ... ... ...	...	...	...	...	...	£311,524
Sum represented by a penny rate ... ... ...	...	...	...	...	...	£1,263

## VITAL STATISTICS

### LIVE BIRTHS:

	Total	Male	Female
Legitimate	357	181	176
Illegitimate	23	12	11
Total live births—	380		

Birth rate per 1,000 estimated population ...	...	...	...	18.5
Illegitimate live births per cent. of total live births ...	...	...	...	6.0
Birth rate corrected by comparability figure of 0.98 ...	...	...	...	18.1
Birth rate for England and Wales per 1,000 population ...	...	...	...	17.4

### STILL-BIRTHS:

	Total	Male	Female
Legitimate	4	1	3
Illegitimate	—	—	—

Rate per 1,000 total live and still births ...	...	...	...	10.4
Rate per 1,000 total births England and Wales ...	...	...	...	18.7
Total live and still births—384.				

### INFANT DEATHS:

#### Deaths of infants under 1 year—

	Total	Male	Female
Legitimate	8	1	7
Illegitimate	1	—	1
Total infant deaths—	9		

### INFANT MORTALITY RATES:

Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births ...	...	...	...	23.6
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births ...	...	...	...	22.4
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births ...	...	...	...	43.5
Neo-natal mortality rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births) ...	...	...	...	18.4
Perinatal mortality rate (still births and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and still births) ...	...	...	...	28.6
Infantile mortality for England and Wales per 1,000 live births ...	...	...	...	21.4

### MATERNAL MORTALITY (Including abortion):

Number of deaths ...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births ...	...	...	...	...	Nil

### DEATHS:

	Total	Male	Female
	275	136	139

Death rate per 1,000 estimated population ...	...	...	...	13.4
Death rate corrected by comparability figure of 0.76 ...	...	...	...	10.2
Death rate per 1,000 population England and Wales ...	...	...	...	12.0

## DEATHS FROM ALL CAUSES, 1961

The table below was compiled from figures supplied by the Registrar General and the classification is given under the thirty-six headings based on the Abbreviated List of the International Statistical Classification of Diseases, Injuries and Causes of Death, 1948.

		Male	Female
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory	...	—
2.	Tuberculosis, other	...	1
3.	Syphilitic disease	...	—
4.	Diphtheria	...	—
5.	Whooping cough	...	—
6.	Meningococcal infections	...	—
7.	Acute Poliomyelitis	...	—
8.	Measles	...	—
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases	...	—
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	...	2
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	...	9
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast	...	3
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	...	2
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	...	9
15.	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	...	1
16.	Diabetes	...	4
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system	...	30
18.	Coronary disease, angina	...	11
19.	Hypertension with heart disease	...	1
20.	Other heart disease	...	9
21.	Other circulatory disease	...	12
22.	Influenza	...	8
23.	Pneumonia	...	6
24.	Bronchitis	...	3
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system	...	1
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	2
27.	Gastritis, enteritis, and diarrhoea	...	—
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis	...	—
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	...	—
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...	—
31.	Congenital malformations	...	4
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	23
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	...	1
34.	All other accidents	...	2
35.	Suicide	...	2
36.	Homicide and operations of war	...	—

All Causes    136    139

## **GENERAL PROVISIONS OF PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES**

### **(a) Under the control of the Essex County Council:—**

#### **(i) Braintree—Essex County Health Services Clinic, Coggeshall Road:—**

			<b>Attendances</b>
Speech Therapy	Every Monday	10 a.m.	416
Child Welfare	Every Tuesday	2 p.m.	2360
Ante-Natal and Women's Welfare	Every Wednesday	10 a.m. (By Appt.)	181
School Clinic	Every Tuesday	10 a.m.	231
Poliomyelitis Vaccination	Every Tuesday and 1st Friday	(By Appt.)	
Dental	Monday, Wednesday and Friday	10 a.m.	1451
Diphtheria & Whooping Cough Immunisation	1st Friday	3 p.m.	
<b>Bocking</b> —Village Hall.			
Child Welfare	4th Thursday	2 p.m.	156

#### **(ii) Home Help Service:—**

This useful service is administered from the Area Health Office,  
75, Springfield Road, Chelmsford.

#### **(iii) Ambulance Service:—**

The Ambulance Station is situated in Cressing Road, Braintree. A full 24 hour cover is provided.

#### **(iv) Laboratory Services:—**

The Essex County Council provide a laboratory service which includes the bacteriological and chemical analysis of water samples, the chemical analysis of sewage effluents and the bacteriological examination of ice cream, and the examination of other foods for pathogenic organisms. These examinations are carried out by either the Counties Public Health Laboratories, Victoria Street London S.W.1., or the Public Health Laboratory, Chelmsford and Essex Hospital, New London Road, Chelmsford.

### **(b) Under the control of the North-East Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board:—**

#### **(i) Chest Clinics:—**

These are held twice weekly at St. Michael's Hospital, Braintree.

**PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES**

Diseases	Total Notified	Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Diphtheria	—	—	—
Dysentery	—	—	—
Encephalitis	—	—	—
Enteric Fever	—	—	—
Erysipelas	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	441	—	—
Infective Hepatitis	—	—	—
Malaria	2	1	—
Measles	298	—	—
Meningococcal Infection	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—
Paralytic Poliomyelitis ..	—	—	—
Non-paralytic Poliomyelitis	—	—	—
Pneumonia	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	9	—	—
Tuberculosis, pulmonary	11	5	—
Tuberculosis, Non-pulmonary	1	—	—
Whooping Cough	16	—	—
<b>Totals ...</b>	<b>338</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>—</b>

**INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED ACCORDING TO AGE**

Diseases	At all Ages	Under 1 Year	Age unknown	Over 65 and										
				1	2	3	4	5-9	10-14	15-19	20-34	35-44	45-64	
Diphtheria .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric Fever .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning .....	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Infective Hepatitis .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malaria .....	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles .....	298	9	19	42	37	38	148	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infection .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paralytic Poliomyelitis .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Non-Paralytic Poliomyelitis .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever .....	9	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis, Pulmonary .....	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis, Non-pulmonary .....	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough .....	16	2	—	3	2	1	5	2	—	—	1	—	—	—
<b>Totals</b>	<b>338</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>

**INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED MONTH BY MONTH**

Diseases	Total Notified	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Infective Hepatitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malaria	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Measles	298	34	6	41	64	37	21	68	24	3	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infection	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paralytic Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Non-Paralytic Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	9	—	—	1	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Tuberculosis, Pulmonary	11	2	3	2	—	1	—	—	—	1	3	—	—
Tuberculosis, Non-pulmonary	1	—	—	—	1	1	2	2	1	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	16	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	6	1	—
<b>Totals</b>	<b>338</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>2</b>

## TUBERCULOSIS

	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1 .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
" 1 .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
" 2 .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
" 3 .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
" 4 .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5 - 9 .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10 - 14 .....	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
15 - 19 .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20 - 34 .....	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	1
35 - 44 .....	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
45 - 64 .....	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 & over .....	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	6	5	—	1	—	—	—	1

Of these 3 were cases renofified on taking up residence in the District during 1961.

### IMMUNISATION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA

Children who completed a full course of primary immunisation during the year				Children who were given a reinforcing injection during the year			
By General Practitioners		By County Staff		By General Practitioners		By County Staff	
1961	1960	1961	1960	1961	1960	1961	1960
(a) 181 (a)	170	78	75	60	81	68	149
Totals ...		1961—259		Totals ...		1961—128	
		1960—245				1960—230	

### IMMUNISATION AGAINST WHOOPING COUGH

Children who completed a full course of immunisation under the County Scheme				Records of combined diphtheria pertussis immunisation received			
By General Practitioners		By County Staff		1961		1960	
1961	1960	1961	1960	(b) 127	179	(b) 167	44
Nil	3	45	38				
1961	1960	1961	1960	1961	1960	1961	1960
Reinforcing injections	—	—	—	21	—	44	—

Figure (b) is included in (a)

### VACCINATION AGAINST SMALLPOX

Number vaccinated during the year ...	1961	1960
Number re-vaccinated during the year ...	179	151

Number re-vaccinated during the year ...	1961	1960
47	41	

### VACCINATION AGAINST POLIOMYELITIS

Number of persons who have received 2nd injection ...	1961	1960
1125	821	
1605	2020	

Number of persons who have received 3rd injection ...	1961	1960
1008	—	

## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

### WATER

The Council's deep wells at the Notley Road Waterworks and the Bocking Waterworks were the main source of supply used in 1961. Almost 27 million gallons were obtained from the High Garrett Borehole and Braintree R.D.C. throughout the year. At the end of June, 1961, the supply from Codham Borehole was passed into the service mains via Bocking Waterworks as a temporary measure. All water was chlorinated before passing into the mains. None of the water supplied is liable to have a plumbago-solvent action.

The number of samples submitted during the year for bacteriological examination was as follows:—

	Raw Water	Water in supply	Total
Notley Road Waterworks	...	5	10
Bocking Waterworks	...	1	3
High Garrett	...	1	3
Other Supplies	...	—	2
Private Wells	...	3	—
Codham Borehole	...	3	5

All these were reported to be satisfactory with the exception of two samples of raw water from the Notley Road Waterworks which contained Bact. coli in small numbers. The first sample submitted showed slight contamination. On receipt of this report a further sample of raw water was taken and a sample after chlorination. Bact. coli in small numbers was again found in the sample of untreated water, but the sample of water in supply was satisfactory. An inspection of the works revealed a possible source of contamination. This was rectified and subsequent samples were reported upon as being satisfactory.

Several complaints of odour were received from consumers on the Codham supply. This water contains sulphuretted hydrogen, is practically devoid of oxygen and will continue to give rise to such complaints whilst the temporary arrangements for its distribution are in being. When the Codham scheme is completed and the water receives aeration this odour will disappear. In the meantime the public can be assured that the odour in no way affects the purity of this supply, which is of a high order.

Samples were also submitted for chemical analysis and the result of two samples are given as follows:—

Sample from Braintree Waterworks: 24.1.61.

### CHEMICAL RESULTS IN PARTS PER MILLION

Appearance	...	Clear and bright	Turbidity	...	...	...	Nil
Colour	...	less than 3	Odour	...	...	...	Nil
pH	...	...	Taste	...	very slight	"saline"	
Electric Conductivity	...	1700	Free Carbon Dioxide	...			6
Chlorine present as Chloride	400		Dissolved Solids dried at				
			180°C	...	...	...	1130
Hardness: Total	...	125	Alkalinity as Calcium				
Nitrate Nitrogen	...	0.0	Carbonate	...	...	...	280
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	...	0.67	Carbonate	125	Non-carbonate	0	
Albuminoid Nitrogen	...	0.00	Nitrite Nitrogen	...	less than 0.01		
Metals: Iron	...	0.05	Oxygen Absorbed	...	0.15		
			Residual Chlorine	...	Nil		
			Zinc, Copper and Lead	...	absent		

This sample is clear and bright in appearance, has a reaction on the alkaline side of neutrality and is free from metals apart from a very minute trace of iron. The hardness of the water is very moderate; its somewhat high but not excessive content of mineral and saline constituents is normal for this source. The water conforms to the highest standard of organic quality.

Sample from Bocking Waterworks: 28.3.61.

### CHEMICAL RESULTS IN PARTS PER MILLION

Appearance	... Bright with very few particles	Turbidity	... ... less than 3
Colour	... ... ... Nil	Odour	... slightly "sulphuretted hydrogen"
pH	... ... ... 7.3	Free Carbon Dioxide	... 28
Electric Conductivity	... ... 900	Dissolved Solids dried at 180°C.	... ... 600
Chlorine present as Chloride	116	Alkalinity as Calcium Carbonate	... ... 295
Hardness: Total	... ... 320	Carbonate 295 Non-carbonate	25
Nitrate Nitrogen	... ... 0.0	Nitrite Nitrogen	... ... Absent
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	... ... 0.34	Oxygen Absorbed	... ... 0.50
Albuminoid Nitrogen	... ... 0.00	Residual Chlorine	... ... Absent
Metals: Iron	... ... 0.10	Zinc, Copper and Lead	... ... Absent

This sample is practically clear and bright in appearance, neutral in reaction and free from metals apart from a very minute trace of iron. The water is very hard in character but its hardness and its content of mineral and saline constituents in solution are not excessive. Its organic quality is of a high standard.

### Water Consumption in the District

The amount of water pumped during 1961:—

	Gallons
Notley Road Waterworks	... ... 199,832,000
Bocking Waterworks	... ... 83,275,000
Codham Borehole	... ... 12,260,350
By Meter from Braintree R.D.C.	... ... 1,997,400
Borehole, High Garrett	... ... 24,772,000
Total	<u>322,136,750</u>

I am indebted to the Council's Surveyor and Water Engineer for the above figures.

Based on the total population of 20,510, and allowing for 130 persons occupying 47 houses who do not obtain a supply from the public mains these figures represent an overall consumption of 43.3 gallons per head per day. The amount of water supplied through meters for trade and agricultural purposes was 73,696,200 gallons which is equivalent to 9.9 gallons per head per day leaving a net consumption per head per day of 33.4 gallons for domestic purposes.

The total amount of water distributed was 2 per cent less than 1960 but an adequate supply was maintained in all areas throughout the year.

It is estimated that 20,380 persons who occupy 6,747 houses are served by public mains. Of these, approximately 70 houses with an estimated population of 213 are served by 37 standpipes, 35 of which are situated in the open.

There are about 150 houses served by public mains whose only supply is a tap situated in a washhouse entered from the yard.

There are 47 houses with private supplies, 32 of which are piped inside.

## DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

Work on the technical details of the proposed improvements to both Braintree and Bocking Sewage Works proceeded during the year and it is anticipated that tenders for this work will be received in 1962.

The effluent from both works was generally unsatisfactory during 1961. Of six samples taken from the Bocking works, three reached the standard set by the Royal Commission, but all failed to reach the standard set by the Essex River Board. Six samples were taken from the Braintree works, three satisfied the standard set by the Royal Commission, but only one reached the River Board Standard.

Planning permission for new projects was refused on the grounds of inadequate sewage disposal throughout the area.

## INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT

### (1) Number and Nature of Inspections.

During the year 1961, the following inspections were made by the Public Health Inspectors to the premises detailed:—

Nature of Inspections	Primary Inspections	Revisits	Total Visits
Housing—Housing Act ...	63	64	127
Housing—Public Health Act ...	43	51	94
Other Visits—Housing Act ...	145	30	175
Other Visits—Public Health Act ...	180	77	257
Notifiable Diseases ...	12	5	17
Water Supply and Sampling ...	40	5	45
Noise Abatement Act ...	1	1	2
Dairies and Milk Distributors ...	4	—	4
Agriculture (Safety, Health and Welfare Provisions) Act, 1956 ...	22	9	31
Food Hygiene Regulations ...	42	37	79
Other Visits—Food and Drugs Act ...	38	65	103
Ice Cream Premises ...	8	—	8
Ice Cream Sampling ...	30	—	30
Meat and Food Inspection:—			
(a) Slaughterhouses ...	2719	4	2723
(b) Shops ...	77	1	78
(c) Markets ...	41	—	41
Factories Act (Power) ...	13	8	21
Factories Act (Building Sites) ...	9	1	10
Shops Act ...	4	—	4
Drainage ...	58	62	120
Atmospheric Pollution ...	369	6	375
Rent Act ...	1	1	2
Moveable and Temporary Dwellings ...	19	9	28
Vermi and Insect Pests ...	17	4	21
Rat Infestations ...	15	2	17
Interviews Owners/Builders ...	53	—	53
Knackers Yard ...	10	—	10
Swimming Baths and Sampling ...	52	—	52
Miscellaneous ...	84	9	93
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	4169	451	4620

### (2) Notices Served, Etc.

Number of Informal Notices Served ...	...	...	...	56
Number of Informal Notices complied with ...	...	...	...	56
Number of Statutory Notices Served ...	...	...	...	6
Number of Statutory Notices complied with ...	...	...	...	7

**(3) Sanitary Defects and Nuisances**

		Defects Etc., Found	Work Done or Abated
<b>(a) HOUSING</b>			
Defective roofs, rainwater pipes, etc ...	...	11	13
Damp walls ...	...	8	10
Internal defects ...	...	6	5
Defective yard paving ...	...	1	1
<b>(b) GENERAL</b>			
Defective W.C.'s and W.C. structures ...	...	8	6
Houses with insufficient W.C. accommodation	—	—	2
Houses without dustbins ...	...	1	1
Houses with defective dustbins ...	...	16	10
Contraventions of Factories Act ...	...	8	6
Smoke nuisances ...	...	—	2
Defects, etc. in food premises ...	...	5	14
Other nuisances ...	...	—	3
<b>(c) DRAINAGE</b>			
Choked drains and W.C.'s ...	...	45	45
Defective drains ...	...	4	3
New drains tested and passed ...	...	—	1
Old drains tested ...	...	—	8

## HOUSING

The Council completed 53 houses, 10 flats and 8 bungalows during 1961. In addition 55 houses were built privately.

### Clearance Areas

Seven houses comprising the South Street Clearance Order No. 2 were demolished during the year.

### Individual Unfit Houses

Demolition Orders in respect of nine dwellings were made under Section 17 and Undertakings not to re-let under Section 16 (4) of the Housing Act, 1957 were accepted in respect of ten houses during the year.

Two houses which were the subjects of undertakings not to re-let given in 1960 have been rendered fit and improved, and the undertakings were cancelled during the year.

### Re-housing

Twenty families were re-housed from clearance areas and eight families from houses subject to Demolition Orders and Undertakings in 1961.

### Repair of Houses

Twenty-eight houses were made fit as a result of informal action under the Housing Act and the Public Health Act.

Fifty-eight houses were inspected jointly with the Surveyor following applications for improvement grants. Schedules of necessary repair work were prepared and sent to applicants as a condition of grant in respect of 13 of these houses.

### FACTORIES ACTS, 1937—1959

#### 1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by the Local Authorities	9	—	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	97	21	8	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	31	10	—	—
Total ...	137	31	8	—

#### 2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found:

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted	
	Found	Remedied	Referred			
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector		
Want of cleanliness (S.1.)	—	—	—	—	—	
Overcrowding (S.2.) ...	—	—	—	—	—	
Unreasonable temperature (S.3.)	—	—	—	—	—	
Inadequate ventilation (S.4.)	—	—	—	—	—	
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6.)	—	—	—	—	—	
Sanitary conveniences (S.7.)	—	—	—	—	—	
(a) Insufficient ...	—	—	—	—	—	
(b) Unsuitable or defective	8	6	—	8	—	
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—	
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork) ...	—	—	—	—	—	
Total ...	8	6	—	8	—	

#### Outworkers

There are twenty-one outworkers in the District, all engaged in the making of wearing apparel.

## **Atmospheric Pollution**

A pilot survey of 104 houses was made on the Church Lane estate as a preliminary to the proposed formation of a Smoke Control Area. The Council have deferred a decision.

Following information from the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research that the Lead Peroxide and Deposit gauges had only local use it was decided to take these instruments out of operation at the end of April. Results until then had given a picture of local pollution which showed a seasonal variation indicative of domestic pollution.

The daily instrument continued to operate as part of the National Survey.

## **Moveable Dwellings**

Two permanent sites and one holiday site were licensed during the year together with a single caravan on Council owned land, which does not require a licence.

## **Swimming Pools**

The two open air swimming pools continued in operation during the year.

Strict control is maintained during the season and fifty-two visits were made to the pools when field tests for available chlorine were made and samples taken.

Four samples for bacteriological examination were taken from the privately owned pool in each case with satisfactory results.

Seven samples for bacteriological examination were taken from the Council owned pool. The results were satisfactory except for one from the children's pool which showed a moderate degree of bacterial impurity.

It was decided to make alterations during the winter to improve the circulation and increase the turn-over in this pool.

## **Agriculture (Safety, Health and Welfare Provisions) Act, 1956**

All premises in the Urban District covered by this Act were inspected. The majority of premises were satisfactory, those requiring attention, mainly in respect of provisions for temporary workers, were dealt with informally.

## **Insect Pests**

The occupiers of private slaughterhouses were advised and assisted regarding fly control and the premises were kept under surveillance.

Advice and assistance were also given to occupiers regarding ants, crickets, cockroaches, wasps and other pests in respect of 44 premises.

The Council's Refuse Tip at Notley Road was sprayed on several occasions for fly control.

## **Steam Disinfector**

This apparatus was not used during the year.

## **Pet Animals Act, 1951**

Three licences to keep pet shops were renewed during the year.

## **Rodent Control**

The services of a full time rodent operator were again shared with neighbouring authorities.

The work done during the year ending 31st December, 1961, was as follows:-

Total number of inspections and re-inspections	...	887
Number of properties found to be infested and treated:-		
Major	...	9
Minor	...	198
Mice	...	39
Number of "block" control schemes carried out	...	3

During the period covered by this report, your Council continued the free treatment of domestic premises and the treatment of business premises upon a chargeable basis.

## **Legal Proceedings**

On the 15th March, 1961, the Local Magistrates heard proceedings instituted on behalf of the Council against a local baker in respect of offences under the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960.

The baker was summoned to answer eleven charges laid for contraventions discovered during October, 1960. Of these charges, one was withdrawn during the hearing, and he was found guilty in respect of seven of the remaining ten. Fines imposed by the Court totalled £33, and costs amounting to eight guineas were awarded to the Council.

# INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

## Milk Supply

Under the provisions of the Milk (Special Designations) Regulations, 1960, the duty of issuing licences to dealers was transferred to the Essex County Council as from 1st January, 1961. The Council is still responsible for the registration of dairies other than dairy farms.

Details regarding the sampling of milk appear under another heading.

## Ice Cream

Two local manufacturers and their premises were registered for the manufacture, storage and sale of ice cream. The premises were kept under surveillance and no contravention of the Ice Cream (Heat Treatment etc.,) Regulations, 1959, was observed during the year.

Ninety-one certificates of registration were in force covering vendors of ice cream retailing from shops and mobile vans in the area. A few vendors registered elsewhere in the County of Essex also operated in the Council's district.

Twenty-seven samples of ice cream were submitted for the methylene blue reduction test with the following results:-

Manufactured in District	Manufactured outside District
Eleven in Provisional Grade I	Seven in Provisional Grade I
One in Provisional Grade II	Three in Provisional Grade II
One in Provisional Grade III	Two in Provisional Grade III
One in Provisional Grade IV	One in Provisional Grade IV

In addition one ice lolly manufactured outside the District was submitted for examination and reported upon as being satisfactory.

## Meat

All animals, including horses, slaughtered in the Council's area were inspected.

The Government continued the scheme for payment of a grant to local authorities who are carrying a heavy burden in connection with meat inspection and the Council qualified for a grant of £343 in respect of the financial year 1960-61.

Horseflesh slaughtered for human consumption in the Urban District is sold outside the Council's area.

The following sets out the particulars of animals slaughtered and of inspections and condemnations during the year:-

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number Killed .....	3783	442	206	5314	15501	974
Number inspected .....	3783	442	206	5314	15501	974

#### All Diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticercosis:—

Whole carcases condemned .....	3	5	5	2	4	—
Weight in lb. condemned .....	1376	2514	227	111	1020	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned .....	111	61	4	13	291	64
Weight in lb. condemned .....	1454	1488	16	65	1225	939
Percentage affected .....	3.01	15.1	4.37	0.28	1.90	6.57

#### Tuberculosis only:—

Whole carcases condemned .....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Weight in lb. condemned .....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned .....	1	—	—	—	129	—
Weight in lb. condemned .....	59	—	—	—	1304	—
Percentage affected .....	0.03	—	—	—	0.83	—

#### Cysticercosis:—

Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned .....	5	—	—	—	—	—
Weight in lb. condemned .....	43	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration .....	1	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned .....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Percentage affected .....	0.13	—	—	—	—	—

All condemned meat and offals were collected on behalf of the Council by a private contractor and, after treatment, used for animal feeding. This system provides adequate safeguards to public health.

## Other Foods

As a result of inspections carried out at food shops, and food preparing premises in the district, the following items were surrendered as unfit for human consumption during the year:—

	lb.		lb
Tinned Beans	32	Tinned Meat	... 277
Corned Beef	183	Tinned Milk	... 29
Biscuits	341	Tinned Peas	... 47
Tinned Carrots	10	Frozen Peas	... 6
Cheese	77	Poultry	... 8
Frozen Chicken	6	Preserves	... 20
Tinned Fish	17	Tinned Soup	... 17
Frozen Fish	94	Tapioca	... 81
Tinned Fruit	364	Tinned Tomatoes	... 62
Dried Fruit	6	Tinned Rice	... 15
Tinned Ham	476	Jellied Veal	... 76
Frozen Meat	10	Miscellaneous	... 83
Total	2,337 lb.		

## Food Preparing Premises

The number of premises totalling 187 where food is prepared, stored or retailed is as follows:—

Hotels and Licensed Premises	... ... ...	39
Restaurants (including Snack Bars)	... ... ...	16
Works Canteens	... ... ...	10
School Canteens	... ... ...	9
Butchers	... ... ...	13
Food Manufacturing Premises	... ... ...	1
Wet and Dried Fish Shops	... ... ...	8
Bakehouses	... ... ...	8
Bread and Cake Confectioners	... ... ...	5
Grocers	... ... ...	42
Greengrocers	... ... ...	10
Other Food Shops	... ... ...	20

Of these numbers, shops dealing with more than one of these items are classified once.

Details regarding milk and ice cream appear under separate headings.

## Food Hygiene Regulations

Seventy-nine visits were made to food shops during the year under the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955, and the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960.

Details of the various contraventions found and remedied are given below:—

	Regulations	Contraventions Found	Contraventions Remedied
6	Cleanliness of equipment, etc.	... ... ...	— 2
8	Food to be protected from risk of contamination	1	3
14	Sanitary conveniences	... ... ...	— 4
16	Wash hand basins	... ... ...	— 4
17	First aid materials	... ... ...	3 4
18	Accommodation for clothing	... ...	1 —
23	Cleanliness and repair etc. of food rooms	... 2	10

Where there is more than one contravention of a regulation in respect of any premises it is recorded once only in the above table.

## Sampling of Food and Drugs

The provisions of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, relating to the sampling of food and drugs are administered by the Weights and Measures Department of the Essex County Council. The Chief Inspector of that Department has kindly supplied the following details of the samples taken during the year:—

Butter	...	...	1	Canned Fruit	...	...	3
Cream	...	...	1	Cereal Products	...	...	2
Liquid Coffee Essence			3	Condiments	...	...	2
Coffee Mixture	...		1	Confectionery	...	...	4
Plain Flour	...	...	1	Cream of Tartar	...	...	1
Ice Cream	...	...	1	Dessicated Coconut	...	...	1
Margarine	...	...	1	Dried Fruit	...	...	1
Mayonnaise	...	...	1	Herbs	...	...	2
Preserves	...	...	2	Marzipan	...	...	1
Soft Drinks	...	...	1	Milk	...	...	40
Condensed and Evaporated Milk	...		2	Spices	...	...	1
Sausages	...	...	1	Spirits	...	...	3
Tea	...	...	1	Tinned Meat	...	...	1

Total — 79 Samples

In addition to the above, the following samples were taken at the premises of wholesalers outside the Urban District who supply shops within the District:—

Butter	...	...	2	Vinegar	...	...	2
Curry	...	...	1	Cereal Products	...	...	6
Margarine	...	...	2	Confectionery	...	...	3
Meat Paste	...	...	1	Custard Powder	...	...	1
Mustard	...	...	1	Lard and Shortening	...	...	1
Soft Drinks	...	...	5	Milk	...	...	3
Preserves	...	...	2	Puddings	...	...	2
Buttered Sweets	...	...	6	Tinned Meat	...	...	2
Condensed and Evaporated Milk	...	...	3	Tea	...	...	1
Sausages	...	...	4	Herbs	...	...	1

Total — 49 Samples

All the above samples were found, on analysis, to be satisfactory.

Of the milk samples, six were taken at schools and thirteen at hospitals.

